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ABSTRACT

A summary of the major activities of the Library of Congress (LC) is given for a 15 month period ending September 30, 1976. Highlighted are the activities of the Congressional Reference Service, Processing Department (acquisitions, cataloging, and networking), Federal Library Committee, Copyright Office, Reader Services Department, major exhibits, and public programs. Two information tables give statistics on the number of collections by format and the growth of the total collection since 1906. This report is for an extended period due to a change in the government fiscal year. (JPF)

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THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS 1976

*A Brief Summary
of
Major Activities
for the
15 Months
Ending
September 30, 1976*



Washington, D.C.
1977

IR005-198

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Introduction

Almost as old as the nation it serves, the Library of Congress, as it celebrated its 176th birthday in the 200th year of American independence, was bigger and busier than ever. In the year ending June 30, 1976, a staff of 4,930 employees acquired, maintained, and provided service on collections of almost 72 million items, grown by one and a half million since the year before. The Library issued more books in its reading rooms—over two million; made more outside loans—almost a quarter of a million; and answered more inquiries from Members and committees of Congress—355,000—than ever before. For these activities Congress appropriated \$119,405,400, plus an additional \$30,406,800 to cover the three-month transition to the new fiscal year.

Growth has been constant at the Library of Congress. This year brought change as well, perhaps the most far reaching change in this century. It brought new leadership: Daniel J. Boorstin, the American historian, became the 12th Librarian of Congress in November, 1975; he selected two members of the Library staff to assist him in the general management of the Library, William J. Welsh as The Deputy Librarian of Congress and Donald C. Curran as The Assistant Librarian. Two new departments, Reader Services and Research, were created to take the place of the Reference Department. The American Folklife Center was established by the American Folklife Preservation Act to carry out programs for the preservation, support, revitalization, and dissemination of American folklife. New copyright legislation, the first major revision of the copyright law since 1909, was to be signed soon after the close of the fiscal year. And, indicating that other changes might lie in the future, The Librarian formed a Task Force on Goals, Organization, and Planning to assist him in the most extensive review of the Library and its activities ever undertaken. The Task Force was to report its findings by January 1977.

The Librarian of Congress each year transmits to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report on the Library's activities in the fiscal year just past. This year he reported on a 15-month period, the fiscal year ending June 30 and the transitional quarter ending September 30, the date on which the government's fiscal year will end in the future. The Librarian, who

promised at his swearing-in "to keep the traffic of knowledge and of ideas moving freely and swiftly," has offered this as the first in a new series of annual reports to the public.



*Daniel J. Boorstin
takes the
oath of office,
administered by
the Speaker of the House
Carl Albert,
while President Ford
looks on.*

*Mrs. Boorstin,
who stands behind the Speaker,
holds the Thomson Bible
for the ceremony
in the Great Hall.*

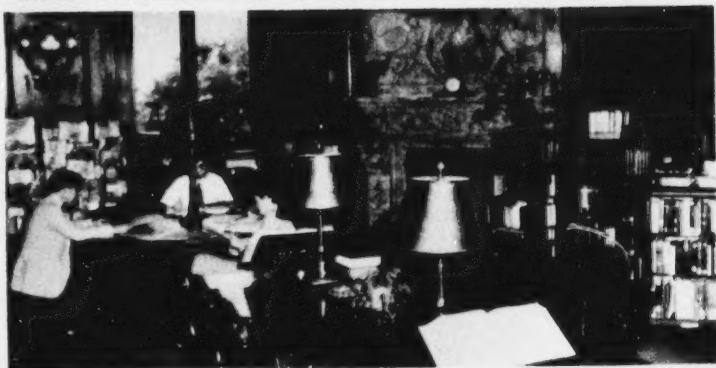
Serving the Congress

The primary purpose of the Library of Congress is still that for which it was founded, to serve the Congress of the United States. As the work and needs of Congress have changed, Congress has altered the way the Library provides this service. In 1914 a division was created "to prepare such indexes, digests, and compilations of law as may be required for Congress." In 1946 the Legislative Reference Service was established by law as a separate department of the Library, its staff strengthened and its responsibilities increased. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 gave the department a new name, the Congressional Research Service, to reflect its change from a reference-oriented entity to a body of experts "who, on their own initiative, are capable of creating and producing new information and data that are pertinent to the legislative business of the Congress."

REFERENCE AND RESEARCH

Since 1970 both the activities and the staff of the Congressional Research Service (CRS) have increased. In the 12 months of fiscal year 1976, for instance, 806 employees handled a total of 291,433 inquiries, up from the figures of 244,498 in 1975 and 202,344 in 1974. The Congressional Reference Division, established to answer those questions that do not need the expertise of a subject specialist, handled 62 percent of the 1976 total, most of them on the same day or within 24 hours. Questions came in over a telephone hot line or were posed by users of the Congressional Reading Room and the reference centers in the Rayburn House Office Building and the Russell Senate Office Building. The inquiry workload was particularly heavy in the spring, reaching a peak in March when the division answered 20,700 requests, almost half of them on a rush basis.

CRS also undertook 951 major policy analysis and research projects—146 for individual Members and 681 for committees, 329 for House, 300 for Senate, and 52 for joint committees. More than 100 of these projects involved staff in several CRS subject divisions, whose activities were coordinated by senior specialists. The extensive study of the interaction of science and technology with foreign policy illustrates this kind of undertaking. Sponsored by the House



ABOVE

A Congressional staff member gets help from a reference librarian in one of the two reference centers maintained by the Library of Congress in the Rayburn House Office Building and in the Russell Senate Office Building. The centers are designed to provide fast and convenient reference services to Congress.

BELOW

One of 16 reading rooms in the Library of Congress, the Congressional Reading Room houses some 5,000 reference volumes and current books, newspapers, and magazines for use by Members of Congress and their staffs.

Committee on Foreign Relations, the study has resulted over a six-year period in a series of committee prints of which the 15th and final appeared in June 1976. Entitled *Science, Technology, and Diplomacy in the Age of Interdependence*, this 492-page volume was prepared by the two senior specialists who had served as director and associate director of the series; three other senior specialists and seven other research analysts from four CRS divisions contributed to the series.

Some 800 other major projects in 1976 included studies of federal and state election laws, federal grant-in-aid programs that use population as a factor in allocating funds, the economic effects of the deregulation of natural gas, and a 50-state survey of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program. CRS analysts made studies of low-level pollutants, sulfates in the atmosphere, inadvertent modification of the upper atmosphere, ozone depletion, and ocean dumping. In the field of international relations they analyzed programs of military assistance and arms sales and studied trends in the allocation of defense resources. The Senate Armed Services Committee distributed as a committee print a substantial study of *The United States/Soviet Military Balance*. Members asked for assistance on issues like lobbying disclosure, Indian and Alaskan affairs, chemical and biological warfare, and aircraft collision avoidance technologies.

COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION

Underlying this research and information assistance to the Congress is a highly automated information retrieval system. Legislative, issue-analytical, bibliographic, and other computerized files are now available for direct congressional access through the Library's information retrieval system (SCORPIO), and by the end of 1976 the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration had installed cathode-ray-tube (CRT) terminals to give such direct access to 93 Senators' offices and 22 committee offices. CRS continued to work closely with the House Commission on Information and Facilities in setting up an experimental network linking the computers of the House Information Systems with those of the Library. Some 30 House offices in this network go through the House computers to get information from CRS data files. More than 70 other House offices in 1976 could search the CRS files by means of telephones linking their terminals to the Library computer.

CRS files to which the SCORPIO information retrieval system provides access included in 1976 digests of all public legislation introduced in the 93d and 94th Congresses, a bibliographic citation file

containing references to articles since 1974 in several thousand journals and many hundreds of congressional, executive branch, United Nations, and other public documents, and a Major Issues Systems file which, at the end of the fiscal year, contained 222 "issue briefs"—concise, analytical papers on major public policy topics. By-products derived from the files stored by computer were the *Digest of Public General Bills and Resolutions* (or *Bill Digest*), published since 1935 and now compiled by computer, and *Major Legislation of the 94th Congress*, formerly prepared manually each month but now updated and printed automatically by computer.

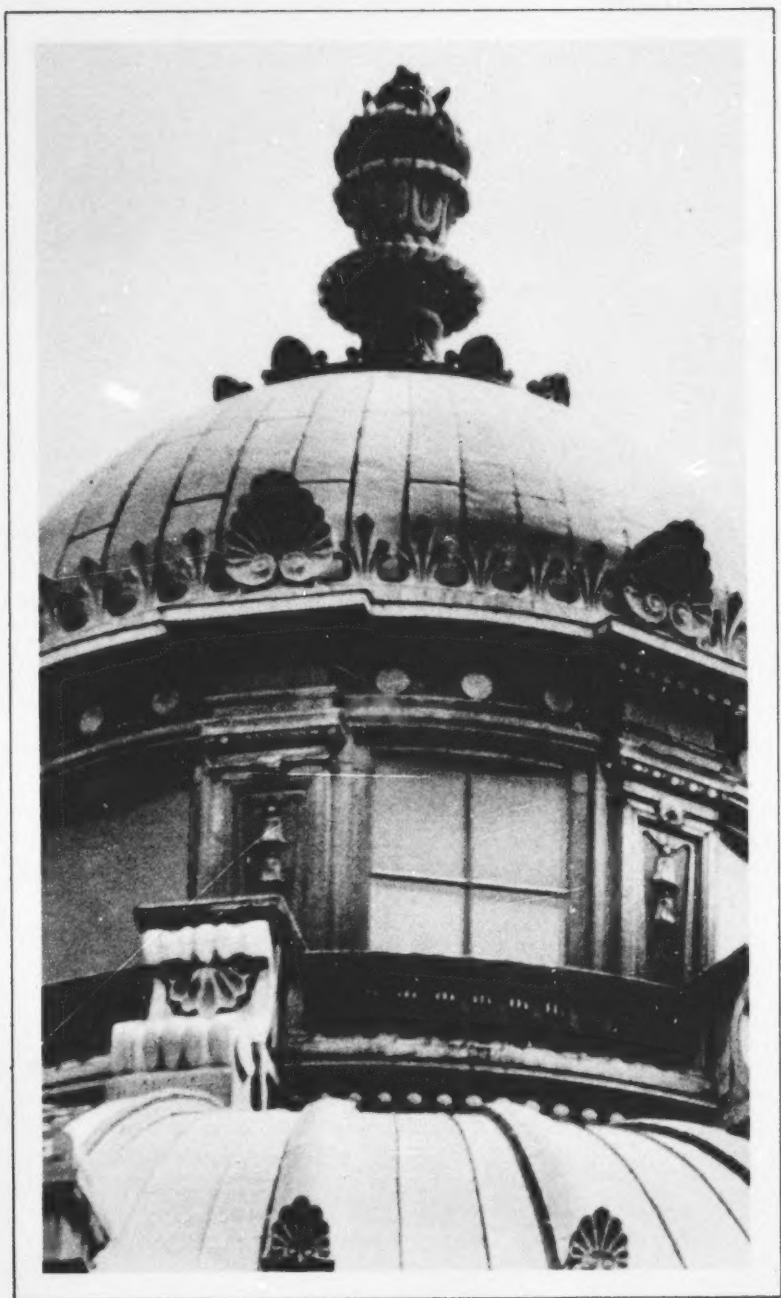
In 1969 the Library Services Division, the "library" of CRS, converted a manually produced "current awareness" service to a computer-produced selective dissemination of information (SDI) system. Originally intended to keep CRS researchers informed of the latest writings in their fields and to make it possible for them to locate the items they need for research, it is now a congressional service as well, with 233 congressional subscribers by June 1976. Division librarians with specialized subject backgrounds screen thousands of publications and store references to them in the computer, using a special legislative indexing vocabulary developed by CRS. Users, both CRS and congressional, indicate their research interests to the librarians, who then make an "interest profile" based on those research interests for each user. These profiles are matched each week to the material added to the file and the subscribers are sent a list of references; if a subscriber wants to see a publication or an article on the list he receives, he can get it from CRS in its printed form or in a microfiche copy. The references stored in the computer can be retrieved at a moment's notice in the form of bibliographies on specific subjects whenever needed by CRS researchers or Members of Congress.

In 1976, at the direction of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, CRS developed a computer-based Research Notification System, intended to aid the monitoring of research activities in all the congressional support agencies: the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of Technology Assessment, the General Accounting Office, and CRS itself. All major research is reported to CRS—in a two-and-one-half week period in March the Library Services Division staff put into the computer information about 2,000 projects in progress—and each month the Senate and House Appropriations Committees receive a directory listing all new projects begun, current research, and research completed by the four agencies during the preceding six months. The system has helped to eliminate unnecessary duplication of research and to encourage cooperation between the support agencies.

SPECIALISTS AND SENIOR SPECIALISTS

The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 gave The Librarian the authority to appoint "senior specialists" and specialists in certain broad subject fields, without regard to the quotas on supergrade positions set by law. These specialists, most of them experts with national reputations at the time of their appointments, bring years of experience in business, in the academic world, and in government to their work in CRS. In addition to the research they performed alone and with CRS divisions, senior specialists were assigned to congressional committees, represented committees at international meetings, and arranged and conducted seminars and briefings for Members and staffs.

Briefings and seminars also involved various divisions of CRS. With the cooperation of the Brookings Institution CRS held a series of eight seminars for Members and a similar series for senior congressional staff on a broad range of topics. During this period CRS planned an extensive program of services for newly elected Members of the 95th Congress in December 1976 and January 1977.



Serving Libraries

Librarians use the word "processing" to cover all the activities involved in acquiring a book, giving it a number, and filing a description of it by author, title, and subject in the catalog. In the Library of Congress the 1,500 people engaged in these activities form the Processing Department, the Library's largest. As the Library of Congress has over the years assumed leadership in the library world, what these 1,500 people do is as important to other libraries as it is to the Library of Congress itself.

ACQUISITIONS

In 1976 the Library acquired almost 400,000 books, photographs, periodicals, sound recordings, etc., through copyright deposit, almost 490,000 items from exchanges with other governments and organizations, over three and a half million by law and official donation, and a smaller number by gift. In addition the Library purchased in the United States some thousands of books and periodicals not otherwise received.

To keep its collections of foreign materials comprehensive and up to date, the Library maintains field offices abroad, in Brazil, East Africa, West Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, and Egypt. In 1976 these offices acquired 62,843 monographs, newspapers, and serials for the Library of Congress.

Other overseas programs are cooperative. With funds available under Public Law 480 (a 1958 law that allows The Librarian of Congress to use U.S.-held foreign currencies, when appropriated by Congress, for the purchase of foreign publications), the Library acquired some one million publications for itself and for other U.S. libraries from Egypt, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Poland. An acquisitions program in Sri Lanka provided the Library of Congress and the 17 other libraries which help support the activity with more than 27,000 publications. And a new program in Bangladesh produced 23,555 publications for the Library and for 10 other participants.

CLASSIFICATION

The Library's classification system by which its acquisitions are cataloged and shelved by subject was devised less than 100 years ago.

By 1976 the system was used by 1,300 libraries in the United States and by 200 in other countries. Capable of continuous alteration to reflect expanding boundaries of knowledge and experience, the LC classification system continued to change in 1976. Among many changes, a new subclass was created for Eastern Europe and the classification for Hungary was revised. While law materials have been the last to be classified, the Library made significant progress in this area in 1976, completing schedules for General Law and the Law of Canada and advancing the preparation of tables for Latin American Law, German Law, and French Law.

Although the Library of Congress arranges its own collections according to this LC classification (a system based on the letters of the alphabet with numerical subheadings capable of indefinite expansion), it also classified almost 95,000 titles this year according to the Dewey decimal classification, a simpler numerical scheme used by thousands of public and college libraries. A staff member of the Processing Department serves as editor of both the full and the abridged editions of *Dewey Decimal Classification*, which is developed, revised, and prepared in the department for publication by Forest Press in Albany, N.Y. In 1976 he continued work on the 19th edition of this work, to be published in 1979.

CATALOGING

In 1901 Herbert Putnam announced that the Library of Congress would supply other libraries with printed cards carrying all necessary cataloging information. In fiscal year 1967 the Library began sending MACHine-Readable Cataloging (MARC) information on magnetic tapes to 16 cooperating libraries in a pilot program. The 1976 statistics graphically illustrate library receptiveness to this new technology. The sale of printed cards, which had reached an all-time high in 1968, the year before MARC began full production, accounted in 1976 for only 30 percent of cataloging information sales; the sale of tapes and computer-assisted book catalogs accounted for 70 percent. Beginning in 1976 MARC tapes were available for material in 30 languages using the roman alphabet, including most of the European languages, and the MARC data base included 759,053 records for books, films, maps, and serials. Also available in this fiscal year were Canadian MARC book records (sold to subscribers in the United States only) and *Library of Congress Subject Headings* on tape or in microform. The Cataloging Distribution Service—renamed to reflect more accurately than “Card Division” the nature of its products—returned from combined sales of all kinds of cataloging information some \$7.5 million to the U.S. Treasury.

In a program called Cataloging in Publication (CIP) the Library of Congress gives publishers basic cataloging information to be printed on the back of the title page of the book it describes. More than 1,000 publishers participating in this program sent to the Library galley proofs for about 24,000 titles in 1976. Library catalogers sent them back with the basic elements of the catalog card so that this information could be included in each book when it comes off the press. Under this program libraries can place new books in circulation without the delay of further cataloging—the text of the catalog card can be copied from the book itself. Programs patterned after the Library's are being considered in Australia, Brazil, Great Britain, Germany, the U.S.S.R., and elsewhere.

NETWORKING

Librarians and government officials believe in the importance of a national library network to meet not only the government's but the nation's need for information. The Library of Congress role in an evolving national network was explored in 1976 under a contract from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. The Librarian of Congress also underlined the importance of computer networking by creating in the Librarian's Office the position of Special Assistant for Network Development. To this post he appointed Henriette Avram, the person responsible for the development of machine-readable cataloging in the Library. The Special Assistant's office was given the responsibility for several projects, including the NCLIS contract study, a computer-to-computer experiment with the Research Libraries Group, COMARC (for Cooperative MACHine-Readable Cataloging), and CONSER (for CONversion of SERials).

- In 1976 the office tried an experiment to test a program for the sharing of resources with other libraries. The first stage installed a communications link between the computer of the Research Libraries Group at the New York Public Library and the computer of the Library of Congress. Then members of RLG could gain access to and acquire LC MARC records on-line. Representatives from RLG and other libraries met at the Library of Congress in April to explore the possibility of extending such access to other libraries.

- The COMARC pilot project was to explore the feasibility of adding machine-readable records created by other libraries to LC's own cataloging product. In this project, funded by the Council on Library Resources, Inc., the Library made good progress. Before the end of the fiscal year the Ohio College Library Center was sending directly to the Library of Congress cataloging information on tape

from five of the six participants—the Washington State Library, Information Dynamics Corporation, the University of Chicago, Cornell University, and the Boston Theological Institute. The Library began distributing COMARC records as part of the LC MARC Distribution Service in April 1976.

- The CONSER project is a two-year effort to create a single machine-readable file of bibliographic descriptions of serial publications held by libraries in North America, beginning with the serial cataloging of the Library of Congress MARC, the Minnesota Union List of Serials, and the National Library of Canada. With the co-operation of the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services and support by the National Science Foundation, the project includes serial titles in the field of science and technology. The National Endowment for the Humanities made a similar grant in 1976 to build a large machine-readable data base of serials in the humanities as part of the project. The Library of Congress began making on-line additions to this growing file on June 22, 1976, with the support of the Council on Library Resources and using the facilities of the Ohio College Library Center. The Library also began preparing to integrate CONSER functions with other technical functions of the Library's projected national bibliographic services.

Automation has brought a new language of acronyms to the Library of Congress, an international language not always intelligible to the layman. MARC (MACHine-Readable Cataloging), for instance, has led to UNIMARC, a proposed international communications format for machine-readable records. During this year Library representatives met with their colleagues abroad to consider drafts before taking on the responsibility for preparing the final text to be published by the International Federation of Library Associations. The Library of Congress and the National Library of Australia signed an agreement in February 1976 for the exchange and distribution of bibliographic data on each country's imprints through their respective MARC distribution services; similar agreements had already been made with the national libraries of Canada and France. A Library staff member contributed a paper on efficient international exchange of machine-readable bibliographic records to a symposium held in Cairo to plan an Egyptian scientific and technical information system.

FEDERAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Federal Library Committee, located in the Library of Congress, is an interagency committee whose secretariat is part of the Office of The Librarian. Meetings of this committee during 1976



*Appearing
on a computer
terminal screen,
these serial titles
are part of
a large
machine-readable
data file
of serial publications
that is being created
by the
CONSER
(CONversion of SERIALs)
project
at the
Library of Congress.*

took up subjects that ranged from software packages for information retrieval to bibliographic control of federal documents. It held three executive workshops in library management and produced several publications. In the previous fiscal year this network of federal libraries had undertaken a Federal Libraries Experiment in Cooperative Cataloging. In 1976 the name was changed to the Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK). By the close of the year 34 libraries had access to the Ohio College Library Center data base via the FEDLINK leased line and 14 via another system; most were using the network primarily for cataloging monographs and serials.

In other assistance to libraries the Reader Services Department tried an experimental National Telephone Reference Service in cooperation with five library networks. That department's Loan Division issued 76,398 items on interlibrary loan to local federal libraries and 29,484 to out-of-town libraries.

Serving the Public

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Most people think that the information on shelves, in file drawers, and in vaults is what libraries are all about—the Library of Congress no less than any other. And to get information from this, the world's greatest mine of information, people came, telephoned, or wrote to ask 2,827,013 questions in the 15-month period under review and used 1,487,683 items from the collections in the Library itself. The staff answering these questions and issuing the books were in the Law Library, the Reader Services Department, and the Research Department.

Following the division of the former Reference Department in February 1976, the Reader Services Department met the needs of readers who patronized the general reading rooms—Main, Thomas Jefferson North, Science, Local History and Genealogy, Newspaper and Current Periodical, and Microform—or who directed a telephone call or written inquiry to the General Reference and Bibliography Division. Readers with special research needs went to one of the Research Department's divisions: Geography and Map, Latin American, Portuguese, and Spanish, Manuscript, Music, Orientalia, Prints and Photographs, Rare Book and Special Collections, or Slavic and Central European.

Staff of the Reader Services Department concentrated on improving delivery service from the stacks to the reading rooms. Despite burdensome overcrowding, stack conditions improved. These improvements—along with the continuing work of reading library shelves to insure that books were in their proper places—helped reduce the not-on-shelf rate for the fourth year in a row.

Divisions of the Reader Services Department improved reference service by the use of cathode-ray-tube terminals providing access to the Library of Congress Computerized Catalog. Public terminals were being placed in the reading rooms at the year's end. Bibliographies of many kinds were prepared. Some offered continuing guides to specialized literature, like *Current Antarctic Literature*, others listed useful popular works on selected topics, like the *LC Science Tracer Bullet* series, and others were comprehensive catalogs like *Government Publications: A Guide to Bibliographic Tools*.

The Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, as part of the Reader Services Department, continues to provide reading materials nationwide through a network of cooperating libraries. The number of people who used this service grew by 15 percent in 1976. Added to the network were regional libraries in Alaska and Vermont and five subregionals, three in Georgia, one in Illinois, and one in Kansas. Of the \$16 million appropriated for this program, 90 percent was spent on playback equipment, on books in braille and in recorded format, and on direct services to the 550,000 eligible users. One thousand recorded titles, 300 in braille, and 50 new braille and recorded magazines were added to the collections. The division launched the Telebook experiment to determine whether transmission of talking-book records and cassettes via telephone or cable-telephone lines would result in greater convenience to readers and in more economical use of talking books and equipment.

The Research Department found that many of its area and subject specialists in 1976 spent more than half their time on the tasks and problems of acquisitions. Important Jefferson manuscripts, maps, manuscript music and sound recordings, photographs, and films were added to the collections.

During the year strenuous efforts were made to find storage space for the ever-growing collections until the completed Madison Building provides room for them on Capitol Hill. Photographs were removed to newly acquired space at Landover, Maryland, manuscripts and motion pictures to the Navy Yard Annex, music and rare book collections were reorganized or rearranged, and recent acquisitions of large collections, like the Alexander Graham Bell Papers and the Hauslab-Liechtenstein Map Collection were put in order.

The work of preservation continued. An extensive microfilming program proceeded in several divisions of the Research Department. Sound recordings on old wax cylinders were transferred to tape. Photographic glass negatives were converted to conventional film. Thanks to an American Film Institute grant, the motion picture preservation laboratory, devoted to the transfer of black-and-white nitrate film to safety film, went on a schedule that even included a night shift.

Publications brought the research collections to a wider audience. In 1976 five of the 15 discs in the Folk Music in America series appeared, along with a 19th-century American band concert issued as *Our Musical Past*. The Library also published *Viewpoints: A Selection from the Pictorial Collections of the Library of Congress, The American Revolution in Drawings and Prints: A Checklist of 1765-1790 Graphics in the Library of Congress*, and *American Print-making Before 1876: Fact, Fiction, and Fantasy*. Volume 37 of the

Handbook of Latin American Studies and *Children's Books in the Rare Book Division of the Library of Congress*, were edited in the Library and were issued by other publishers.

The Law Library of the Library of Congress is the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of foreign, international, and comparative law. Specialists here can provide reference and research services for all known legal systems. Demands for their services in 1976 touched every geographical and topical area of the law—over 168,000 requests that were answered with special studies, translations, bibliographies, letters, or direct answers by phone or in person. They concerned a wide range of problems: women's suffrage in the United Arab Emirates, the banking system of Switzerland, criminal justice systems in Africa, the status of children of concubines in North Borneo, and many others.

Conservation of this major collection of law materials requires binding, rebinding, boxing, restoration, proper shelving, and similar measures. In 1976, 19,000 volumes of monographs, serials, and briefs were bound and several hundred too brittle to bind were micro-filmed. In a program which the Administrative Department believes may prove a prototype for a library-wide program, more than 1,900 volumes of rare materials on European law were sent to the Restoration Office for boxing under a new phased preservation box program. This is a practical way of decreasing the rate of deterioration until materials can be restored on an individual and more permanent basis. It "buys" time to acquire staff and funds to undertake complete restoration. Each book from the Law Library, for instance, was housed in a custom-fitted box to reduce the strain on binding and structure and the boxes were reshelfed. Complete restoration of these volumes could take years of work.

COPYRIGHT

The federal Constitution provides for the protection of writings and discoveries "to promote the programs of science and useful arts." There has been a federal copyright law since 1790, and since 1870 copyright has been centered in the Library of Congress, providing a major source of material added to the Library's collections.

The Copyright Office, located in Arlington, Va., was increasingly busy as the creative works of Americans multiplied in 1976. Copyright fees deposited in the U.S. Treasury amounted to \$2,763,000, a 13 percent increase over 1975; the number of items deposited for copyright rose to 436,490; searches of copyright records totaled 97,773, up 17 percent over the previous year. The Copyright Office became more responsive to the needs of the public by office re-

organization, by staff training, and by new applications of automation.

The Register of Copyright and her staff have been looking forward to the final enactment of the first major revision of copyright law since 1909. For the last 10 years copyright officials have been pre-occupied with problems arising from rapid technological change. Cable television, performance rights, computer programs, and new copying techniques such as xerography—all have created newly complex challenges which appeared to have been met as the report period ended on September 30. The President signed the new copyright law on October 19, 1976.

Guidelines under the new law and other assistance to the Copyright Office and to congressional offices were offered in meetings held in 1976 by the National Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU), of which The Librarian of Congress is a member. The Commission's final report is to be submitted by December 31, 1977.

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

A new entity appeared in the Library in 1976 when the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center, established by the American Folklife Preservation Act, met for the first time in June. The Librarian of Congress welcomed them to their first meeting and asked them to help the Library discover, open, and widen its resources.

The Center was given a coordinating function to carry on appropriate programs for the preservation, support, revitalization, and dissemination of American folklife through such activities as the collection of archives, research, performances, exhibitions, festivals, workshops, publications, and audiovisual presentations.

EXHIBITS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Library of Congress is a mecca for visitors, hundreds of thousands of whom come every year to see the Great Hall, called by one local critic the most beautiful space in Washington, and the awe-inspiring Main Reading Room whose dome soars 160 feet above the floor. The Library introduces these visitors to the variety and richness of its collections through exhibits which numbered some 70 in 1976, including the Library's major Bicentennial exhibit, "To Set A Country Free." There were exhibitions of photographs taken by women photographers, "Women Look At Women," documents recording the thoughts of "Presidents on the Presidency," books,



*The Country Gentlemen,
along with
other well-known
folk musicians,
entertain guest
at a reception
in the
Great Hall
celebrating the passage
of the
American Folklife Center
bill.*

manuscripts, prints, and photographs on "Aspects of Black American History and Culture," and photographs and prints of "American Railroad Stations" from the files of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The Library's separate divisions mounted smaller displays, like the one celebrating the centennial of the telephone with a selection from the Alexander Graham Bell Papers in the Manuscript Division.

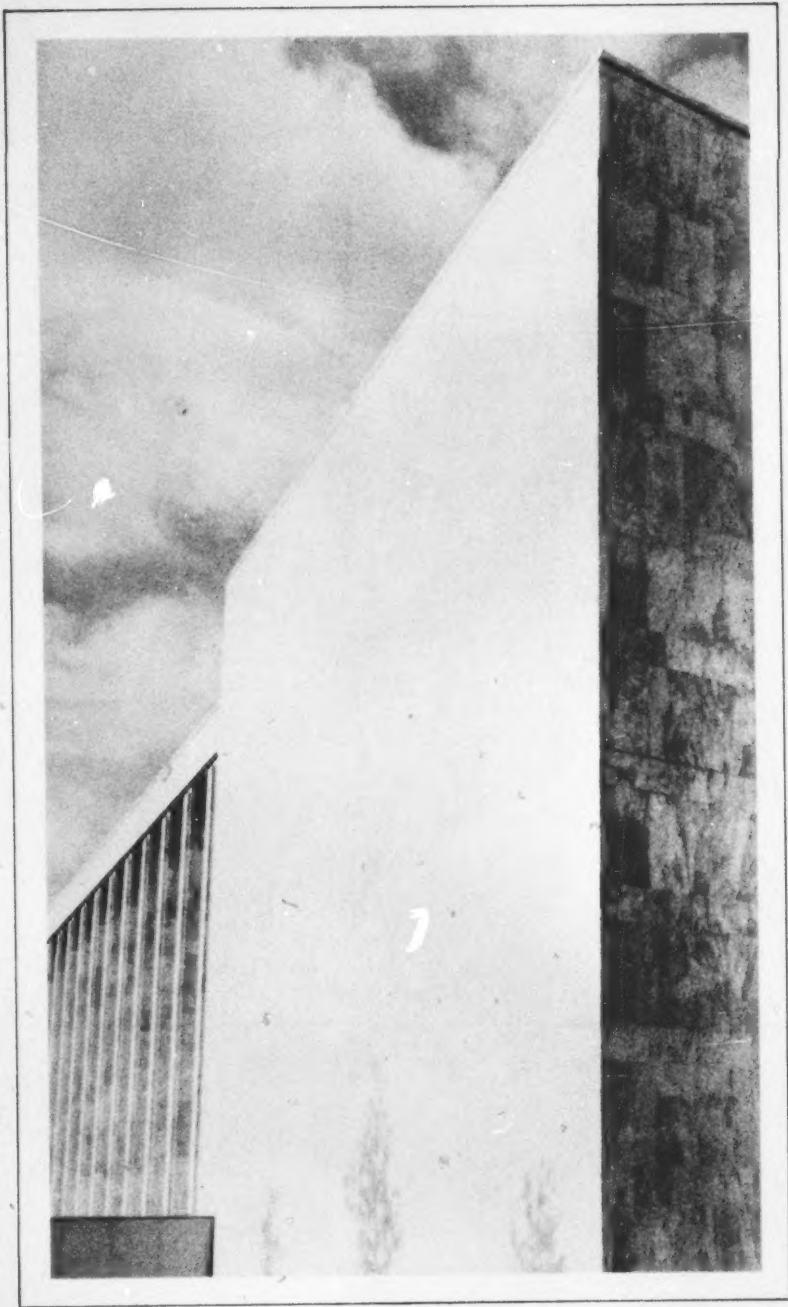
Two exhibits were poignant reminders of the human qualities of two great Presidents of the United States. On February 12, Lincoln's birthday, The Librarian opened a box that had been locked in a Library safe for many years which contained the contents of President Lincoln's pockets on the night he was assassinated. Among the items were his pocket handkerchief, his pocketbook, two pairs of spectacles, a packet of clippings praising him as a statesman, and other memorabilia. These were exhibited along with the manuscripts of the Gettysburg Address and his Second Inaugural Address, delivered just a few weeks before he died.

Later in the year the Library put on view miniature portraits by Charles Willson Peale of James Madison and Kitty Floyd, the 16 year old girl to whom he was briefly engaged when he was 32. Exhibited with the portraits was correspondence between Madison and Jefferson about the broken engagement, pages from Madison's notes on proceedings in the Constitutional Convention, and his "Advice to My Country," found in his papers after his death.

The gifts and bequests of a number of generous donors supported a season of concerts and literary programs that drew audiences to Capitol Hill. The concert season began October 30, 1975, with a three-day anniversary festival of chamber music sponsored by the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation. This foundation, created by Mrs. Coolidge, who also gave the Library its Coolidge Auditorium, sponsored seven other programs during the 1975-76 season. The Gertrude Clarke Whittall Foundation, established by the benefactress who gave the Library its Stradivari instruments and the pavilion in which to house them, sponsored 26 concerts. The Juilliard String Quartet, the Library's quartet in residence, played 20 of these concerts, offering guest artists including Aaron Copland as pianist and violist John Graham. The McKim Fund in the Library of Congress, established to support the performance of music for violin and piano, sponsored five evenings of music.

Poetry and literary programs in the 1975-76 season began with a Conference on the Publication of Poetry and Fiction, which included evening readings by some of the participants, Maura Stanton and Donald Barthelme among them. The 10 programs which followed, all sponsored by the Gertrude Clarke Whittall Poetry and Literature

Fund, ranged from an evening of Afro-American poetry to a program of Welsh verse and music by Pryderi and His Pigs to the poetry of Archibald MacLeish, read with commentary and reminiscence by the former Librarian of Congress. In addition, Stanley Kunitz, the 1974-76 Consultant in Poetry in English to the Library of Congress, gave two programs, one a reading of his poetry in the autumn and the other a talk on poetry in the spring.



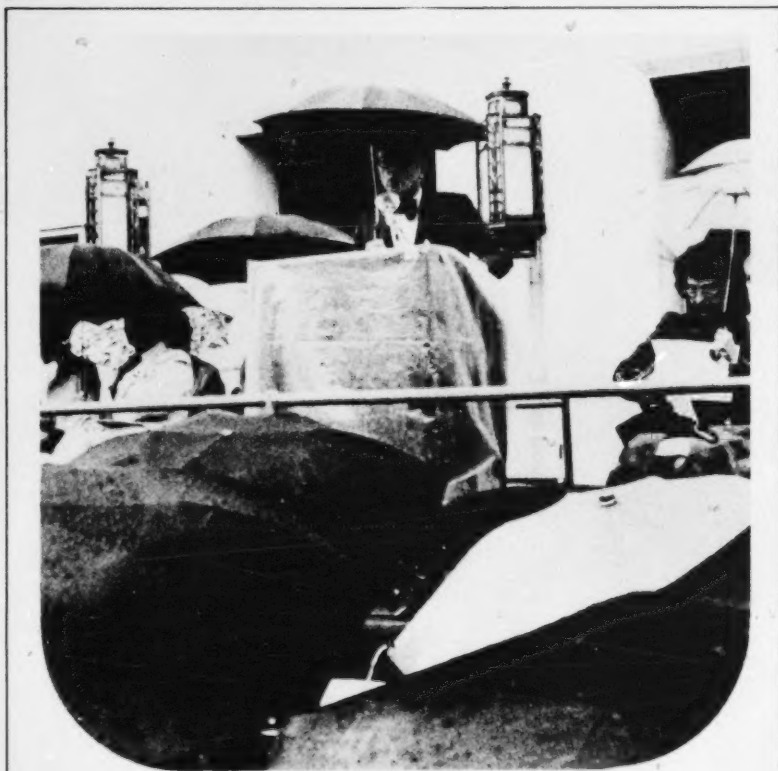
The Buildings

Since it opened in 1939 the classically simple marble building due east of the Library of Congress Building has been known as "The Annex." On April 13, 1976, the birthday of Thomas Jefferson, the President signed a bill changing the name to the Thomas Jefferson Building and the Library celebrated the change with ceremonies honoring both the Library's founder and the American Library Association on its 100th anniversary. The occasion was marked by a symposium honoring Jefferson as bookman and scholar.

After World War II the Library strove to fill the gaps in its collections that the nation's new worldwide responsibilities had revealed. The phenomenal "information explosion" of the 50s and 60s made it impossible to contain the Library's collections and activities in the two buildings on Capitol Hill. In 1965 Congress authorized a third building, to include a James Madison Memorial Exhibition Hall and to be named the James Madison Memorial Library of Congress Building. Preliminary plans were approved in 1967 and final plans and specifications were funded in 1970. Construction work, started in 1971, was to be in four phases, the last—the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, conveyor, elevator and related work, as well as interior finishing—to begin in 1975. When bids for this phase were opened on July 23, 1975, however, the lowest bid was greater than the funds Congress had authorized for completion. Some Members of Congress, in crowded quarters themselves, voiced an interest in converting the structure at this stage to a fourth House Office Building. But after hearings, at which the Library's needs were again reviewed, authorization and appropriation bills were signed by March 1976 and a contract for phase four was awarded to the lowest bidder.

In planning the Madison Building, the Library has worked closely with the Office of the Architect of the Capitol. A Library Environment Resources Office was created in the Office of the Librarian in 1976 to bring together all space and building planning. In addition to monitoring progress toward the move into the Madison Building, expected to begin in 1979, this office has had to acquire additional space for library activities at the Navy Yard and in Landover, Maryland.

With the opportunity in view at long last to reduce congestion and improve working conditions for the staff and study facilities for scholars, the Library began to plan the restoration of the original Library of Congress Building and the more effective and more appropriate use of all its buildings.



*The Librarian
addresses dignitaries
and staff members
gathered in the rain
to dedicate the renamed
Library of Congress
Thomas Jefferson Building.*

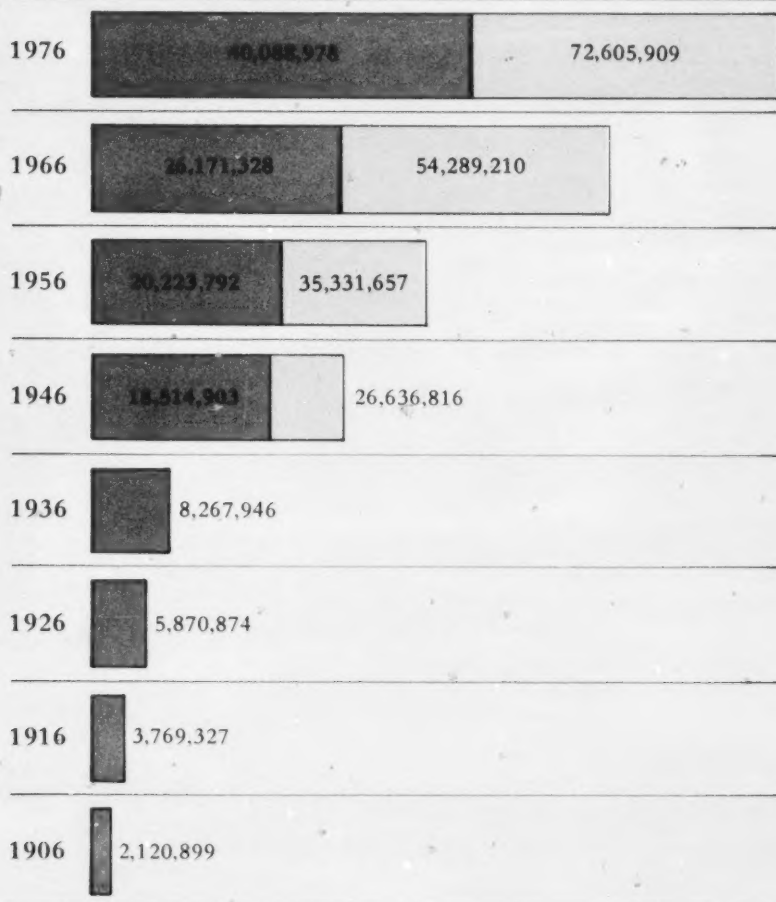
*A symposium
led by the prominent
Jeffersonian scholar,
Dumas Malone,
followed the ceremony.*

Information Tables

THE COLLECTIONS OF THE LIBRARY

	TOTAL PIECES JUNE 30, 1975	TOTAL PIECES SEPT. 30 1976
Volumes and pamphlets	17,454,995	18,013,089
Technical reports (hardcopy)	1,270,531	1,259,266
Bound newspaper volumes	87,331	78,838
Newspapers on microfilm (reels)	294,025	326,592
Manuscripts (pieces)	31,722,263	32,516,931
Maps	3,533,598	3,571,934
Microforms	2,335,074	2,634,415
Motion pictures (reels)	219,784	238,964
Music (volumes and pieces)	3,488,933	3,631,666
Recordings	476,754	641,022
Books for the blind and physically handicapped (Volumes in raised characters and large type)	39,105	43,398
Recordings for the blind and physically handi- capped (Talking books on discs, tape and other recorded aids)	12,886	14,700
Prints and drawings (pieces)	177,921	179,136
Photographic negatives, prints, and slides	8,452,896	8,484,043
Posters	42,894	45,367
Others (broadside, photocopies, nonpictorial material, photostats, etc.)	923,084	926,548
TOTAL	70,522,974	72,605,909

GROWTH OF THE COLLECTIONS (pieces)
1906-1976



*The number of manuscript pieces in the Library of Congress was estimated only after 1943. This number is added to the columns for the years 1946, 1956, 1966, and 1976. The right hand figure indicates the number of pieces in the collections, including manuscripts. The left hand figure indicates the number of pieces, excluding manuscripts.